

Appl. No. : 009,851
Filed : November 6, 2001

REMARKS

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants have amended the specification to clarify antecedent basis in the description for various structural features recited in the original claims. Applicants submit that the amendments are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. *See, e.g.*, Claim 1, as originally filed. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments add no new matter and are fully supported by the Application as originally filed.

Added Claims

Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 48 adds no new matter is fully supported by the Application as originally filed. For example, a robot for handling wafer/ring combinations is discussed on pages 4 and 6 of the Application, as originally filed.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for examination on the merits, and respectfully request the same.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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